

The Files

25 September 1957

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Trip Report -

Task 3

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1. The [REDACTED] was visited September 19, 1957 to inspect and discuss the high-speed page printer that is being developed as part of the high-speed processing for the AS-4A. Those present during this visit were:

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2. Of prime interest is the new approach to the storage and transfer of information in the printer. Instead of using double memory units a single memory and a slack tape loop will be used. The slack tape loop using magnetic tape will serve as a storage unit and will provide the necessary buffering for variations in the length of lines in a message. The main advantage here is the elimination of one complete memory unit containing 72 magnister memory circuits.

3. With this type of buffering, which is commonly used in tape transports, the length of the line of a message must be considered. Too many short lines will fill the buffer to over capacity shutting off the transport automatically. The read-out rate from the tape is not fast enough to pull-out the buffered tape. A study is to be made of messages at our signal center to determine the ratio of short lines to long lines. A study of the incoming format of teletype messages may prove there will be no congestion.

4. Delivery of the printer is scheduled for the first of January 1958. This will coincide with the proposed delivery of the AS-4A equipment from the [REDACTED] Shipment of the printer will be made directly to Washington, D. C.

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5. Other items considered on this trip were:

1. The addition of a STOP symbol which is to be the pound sterling mark and a bell symbol indicated by a picture of a bell.
2. The incorporation of the capability of indexing paper without a carriage return. The [REDACTED] will 25X1A5a1 consider this.
3. The problem of line feed between messages. An investigation of teletype message procedures is necessary in this connection.
4. The incorporation of a switch to give single or double spacing between lines. This will be done.
5. The means of starting the printer manually or by relay control energized from the AS-HA receiver. This is entirely possible.
6. The possibility of radiation of interference or intelligence from the 15 mc. oscillator used in the printer for determining the condition of the magnetor memories. The [REDACTED] will check on this.

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OC-E/R+D-EP/PCV:mjr (25 Sept.57)
cc: R+D Subject File
Monthly Report
R+D Lab
R+D Chrono
EP Chrono